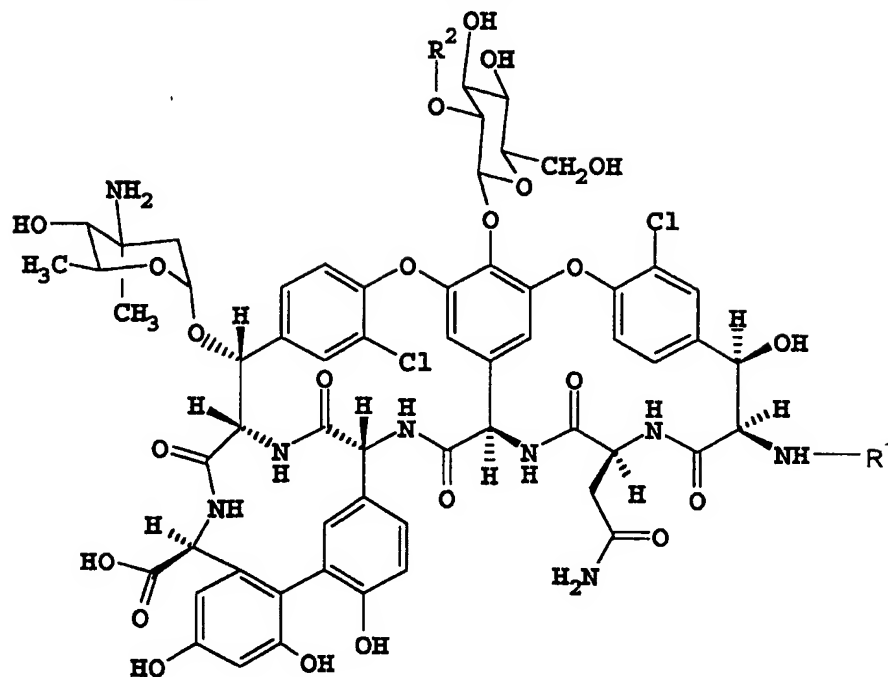


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WE CLAIM:

1. A compound of the formula



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wherein R^1 represents

alkanoyl of C_2-C_{10} which is unsubstituted, or which is substituted by a phenyl, or which is substituted on other than the α -carbon atom by an amino or protected amino group;

10

benzoyl or substituted benzoyl bearing one or two substituents each of which is independently halo, loweralkyl of C_1-C_4 , loweralkoxy of C_1-C_4 or phenyl;

an acyl derived from an α -amino acid or an acyl derived from a protected α -amino acid, said α -amino acid being
15 selected from the group consisting of:

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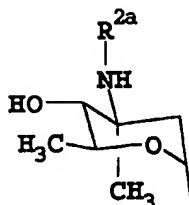
alanine,
arginine,
asparagine,
5 aspartic acid,
cysteine,
glutamic acid,
glutamine,
glycine,
10 histidine,
isoleucine,
leucine,
lysine,
methionine,
15 3-phenylalanine,
3- (p-chlorophenyl) alanine,
proline,
serine,
threonine,
20 tryptophan and
valine,

in either D- or L-form; or

an acyl derived from an α -amino acid as defined
above which bears on the amine a substituent which is alkyl
25 of C₁-C₁₀, benzyl, phenylbenzyl, or p-chlorobenzyl, with the
proviso that the acyl derived from N-methyl-D-leucine is
excluded;

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R^2 represents hydrogen or an epivancosaminy l of the formula



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wherein R^{2a} represents hydrogen or $-CH_2-R^3$; and R^3 represents hydrogen,

alkyl of C_1-C_{11} ,

alkyl of $C_1-C_{11}-R^4$, or

10 $R^4-(\text{linker})_0 \text{ or } 1-R^4)_0 \text{ or } 1$,

wherein each R^4 is independently phenyl or phenyl

substituted by one or two substituents, each of which is independently halo, loweralkyl of C_1-C_8 , loweralkoxy of C_1-C_8 , loweralkylthio of C_1-C_4 , or trifluoromethyl, and

15 "linker" is $-O-$, $-CH_2-$, or $-O-(CH_2)_n-$ wherein n is 1-3;

2. A compound of Claim 1 in which R^2 is an epivancosaminy l radical wherein R^{2a} represents hydrogen,

3. A compound of Claim 2 in which R^2 is an epivancosaminy l radical wherein R^{2a} represents $-CH_2-R^3$.

20 4. A compound of Claim 3 in which R^3 is p-biphenyl.

5. A compound of Claim 3 in which R^3 is p-(p-chlorophenyl)phenyl.

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6. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of any of Claims 1-5 in combination with a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier.

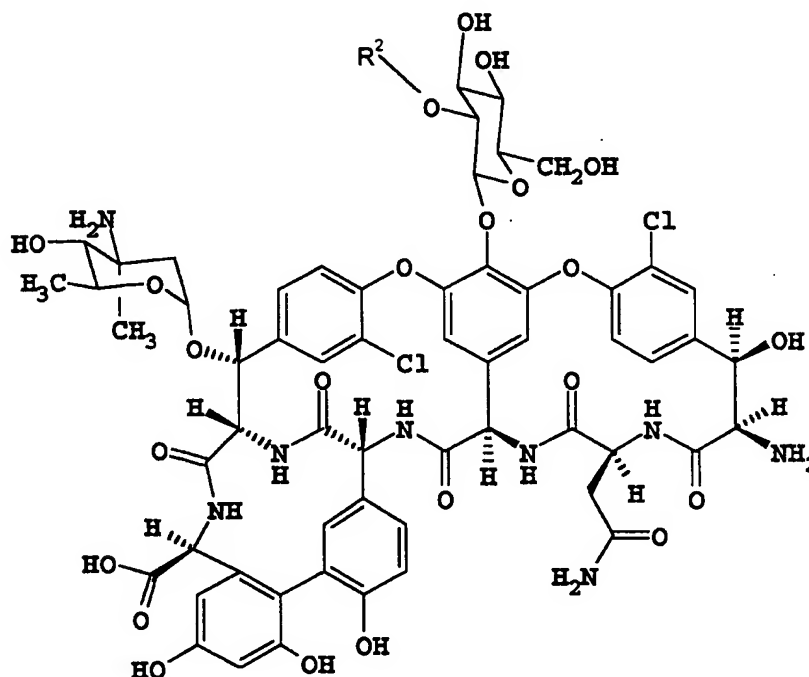
7. A method of treating a bacterial infection in a host comprising the step of administering to the host an effective amount of a formulation of Claim 6.

8. A method of Claim 7 wherein the bacterial infection is attributable to a vancomycin-resistant-enterococcus.

9. A compound of any of Claims 1-5 for use in antibacterial therapy.

10. A compound of any of Claims 1-5 for use in antibacterial therapy against vancomycin-resistant-enterococcus.

11. A process for the preparation of a compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1-5 which comprises reacting a parent glycopeptide of the formula



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wherein R^2 is as defined in Claim 1, with an activated ester of an alkanoic acid of the desired R^1 as defined in Claim 1, and if desired, thereafter reductively alkylating the N^{DISACC} amine and/or forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.